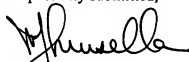


respective independent Claims 13, 18, 22, and 27.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 13-30 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Musella", written over a horizontal line.

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